

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

This amendment supplements the applicant's response filed in the United States Patent and Trademark office on March 28, 2005.

Claims 1-27 are currently pending in the application.

By this Amendment, claim 13 has been amended. No new matter has been introduced by this Amendment.

II. Explanation of Supplemental Amendment:

Claim 13 has been amended to remove [and generating correction data corresponding to the scan mode] and insert "scanning an image in one of said plurality of scan modes; and correcting the scanned image using the correction data, stored in the memory, corresponding to the scan mode used in scanning the image." Claim 13 is still believed to be distinguished over the cited reference for the reasons set forth in the preceding amendment. For the convenience of the Examiner, these arguments are reproduced below:

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b):

Claims 1-4, 9-16 and 21-56 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hamasuna (US 6,032,864).

Independent claims 1, 13 and 25 have been amended to include requirements including storing correction data for each of a plurality of operable modes and updating the correction data when a scan count has reached a predetermined value. By storing and updating the correction data in this way, it is possible to save time for acquiring correction data while maintaining correction quality. These limitations were originally included in claims 5 and 17, which were not examined on the merits.

As amended, claims 1, 13 and 24 are believed to be distinct from Hamasuna. Hamasuna discloses a method of storing correction data for a plurality of scan modes in memory. However, it does not disclose or suggest a system to update the stored correction data when a scan count has reached a predetermined value. Using the same correction data without updating it results in the degradation of correction quality. This can be due to the change in

utilization environment or the aging of the apparatus. Thus, the advantage realized by updating the correction data is not achieved by the system in Hamasuna.

Accordingly, independent claims 1,13 and 25 are distinct from the Hamasuna system. Dependant claims 2-12, 13-24, 26 and 27 are likewise distinguishable based on their dependence on claims 1 and 13 respectively.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-5232. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4742. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: March 30, 2005

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